

► **FREE**

Fran Trutt

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# Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly Ecomedia

**BULLETIN**

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**DETECTING SPIES IS NOT AS EASY AS THIS!**

Informer Attends Anarchist Unconvention

## INFILTRATORS EXPOSED!

Three months ago, Fran Trutt was arrested outside the U.S. Surgical Corporation, which uses live dogs to practice and demonstrate the use of surgical staples produced by this company. She was carrying a remote control device which led to a bomb she had allegedly planted beside the building and its parking lot.

Ecomedia refrained from running the story at that time, because the collective decided that not enough information was known to print an accurate article. Even now, we are the first Canadian publication to print the still unfolding story. What began as a supposedly militant bombing attempt by the "lunatic fringe" has led to knowledge of several movements deeply infiltrated with spies hired through a "security" company that has heavy connections with the FBI and the CIA.

We now know that this is a case of blatant entrapment of a vulnerable activist by agent provocateurs. The story will be of interest to anyone in any alternative movement, but a definite MUST for activists involved in animal liberation, radical environmentalism

and anarchism, especially in North America. Your personal security may depend on it.

see INSERT,  
"The Entrapment of Fran Trutt"

*Right: Mary Lou Sapone, one of  
three spies identified thus far*



**AIDS ACTION NOW!**

## You Can't Get AIDS from a Bite or a Lie

(TORONTO) Saturday, Feb. 11 about 70 people picketed outside the Don Jail to protest the lack of AIDS awareness and care inside Canadian prisons. Although it's nothing new that prisoners are routinely denied proper medical care while suffering from AIDS, the problem came to a head the previous week when one prisoner, Kyle Downey, who was being denied treatment went public with his crisis, and then three days later was accused of attacking and biting a guard at the Don. Prisoners identified as having AIDS were then

shipped out to the Metro East detention centre to calm the outrage screws were feeling as to what they see as miserable work conditions and the lack of protection from AIDS carriers. Downey was held naked in a "high suicide rate" cell with 4 armed guards and only a blanket over the weekend. This increased his risk of catching PCP in the cold. The HIV+ prisoners were punished for having done nothing.

The biting incident later turned out to be a lie, but it did serve to illuminate a severe lack of AIDS awareness

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# No matter who ya vote for, the US & IMF always get in

## *Election results from Jamaica*

The last few days have seen the departure of the leaders of two U.S. client states, though it remains to be seen whether their exploited populations will be any better off under their successors. In Paraguay, where U.S. missionaries and Nazi fugitives helped the Morenigo government massacre the Ache Indians in the forties, the USA was more than likely implicated in the military coup which placed Stroessner in power in 1954. The CIA trained his secret police to operate torture chambers, and by 1980 detention without trial and disappearances were so common (despite the lack of any significant guerilla activity) that someone in nearly every family had been tortured. Despite this and the country's international reputation for mistreating native people, Reagan sent massive

economic aid. Now Stroessner has been replaced by another army officer.

In Jamaica during the 1970s, the USA directed both economic destabilization and CIA-led gunmen at the population when Manley resisted IMF demands that he impose austerity on the people. By 1980 Manley had yielded to the IMF, causing widespread malnutrition among his people and opposition to U.S. control to shift from his government to the Rastafarian movement. Nonetheless, CIA-directed violence continued until the people elected Seaga (known locally as CIAga), a U.S. puppet. Now Manley is back in office, but whether he'll be able or willing to resist U.S.-IMF demands is uncertain.



# Anarchist Revolution in Montenegro?

(TITOGRAD, Yugoslavia) The entire governmental structure in this Yugoslav republic resigned after an armed popular demonstration Jan. 10/11. The demonstrations were spontaneously begun by factory workers and joined by students and the general public. A leader in the street demo said "there is no danger of anarchy" after the country became leaderless. "Everything in fact functions better", he said.

It is unknown what the central Yugoslav government will do about this situation as the military has already been making threatening noises about the deteriorating state of authority. But for now the people of Montenegro are in the blessed state of no-state.

## AIDS Action Now! Demonstration

*continued from front page*

amongst screws in Canadian jails which can only lead to further trouble. All the prisoners were returned to the Don except for Downey and one other prisoner who was witness to the "bite/assault" incident. The Don prisoners are now on an "AIDS range", while the Metro East prisoners are in "medical segregation", locked down 23.5 hours a day.

The demonstrators, citing examples of other countries in which condoms and even needle cleaning facilities are available to prisoners, condemned Canadian prisons for denying that sex occurs inside and for ignoring a royal commission

recommendation that both of these be provided for prisoners. They also voiced demands for PLWA care and community based AIDS prison policy including input from community groups and prisoners themselves.

The denial of treatment or prevention facilities for prisoners amounts to genocide in one sense. The prison populations are overwhelmingly poor, Native, Black or other underclass peoples in our society, so these groups are destined to suffer both when exposed inside and then as a community when prisoners are released carrying the HIV virus to spread it to others. It is

intolerable that anyone should be denied treatment, especially when based, as prisons are as a whole, on the amount of power or wealth one holds in this society.

If you'd like to help fight prisons and the AIDS problem within them, then we recommend you get in touch with AIDS Action Now! at 591-8489, the Prisoner Support Network (a group supporting AIDS, HIV+, gay, lesbian and bisexual prisoners in Canada) at P.O. Box 6705 Stn A Toronto Ont. M5W 1X5, or COMBAT (a group working on fighting AIDS in the Black community) at 924-0938.



# The Entrapment of Fran Trutt

A group has formed in Toronto to do work on the Fran Trutt case, to offer support to her and to sift through the massive amount of material we are continually receiving. We will be putting together a more comprehensive report in the near future; write us c/o **Ecomedia** if you wish to receive it. (P.O. Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, Ont., M4Y 2N9.) For now, however, the following is a brief summary of the events and the people involved.



Fran Trutt

## The Arrest

Just after midnight on Nov. 11, 1988, Fran Trutt was arrested during a police stake-out of **U.S. Surgical Corporation (USSC)**. She was carrying a remote control for a bomb which had just been placed beside the building. Fran Trutt is an animal rights activist, and USSC has been a target for protest for years because of its use of live dogs to practice and demonstrate a surgical stapling technique developed by its founder, **Leon Hirsh**.

Shortly after her arrest, Trutt's Queens, N.Y. apartment was raided by police, who found two more bombs

and two weapons. Fran Trutt has been charged with attempted murder (the bomb was placed near Leon Hirsh's parking spot) and possession of explosives. She is being held in Niantic State Prison for Women in lieu of \$500,000 bond, and has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

It has been revealed that Trutt was set up by two people who posed as activists and friends. These people, with the collusion of a security consulting firm which they work for, gave her the encouragement, the money and the means to plant the bomb. The company, **Perceptions International**, is hired by USSC to

infiltrate the animal rights movement, whose continued protests they see as a threat.<sup>1</sup> Leon Hirsch has stated that Trutt has been under surveillance for at least two years.<sup>2</sup> Perceptions operatives have acted as agent provocateurs, and have infiltrated the animal rights/liberation movement. We know for certain that at least one of its spies has infiltrated radical environmental groups such as **Earth First!** and the **North American anarchist movement**. Three people have been identified so far as Perceptions operatives—**Marc Mead**, "**Bud**" **Vestermark** and **Mary Lou Sapone**. We also know of direct links Perceptions has to the **FBI** and the **CIA**.

## The Moles

**Marc Mead**, through his own admission, was paid \$500 a week plus expenses by Perceptions Int. to befriend Fran Trutt and report on her activities. Trutt told her legal advisers on January 16, 1989, that Mead gave her \$1,200 to buy the bomb.<sup>3</sup> Mead drove Trutt and the bomb in his van from Queens, N.Y. to Norwalk, Conn., and was present during her arrest but not arrested himself. In an interview with the *Westport News*, Mead states: "She placed the bomb and then we walked down the embankment to where my truck was."<sup>4</sup> Most important of all, he had rehearsed the whole arrest scenario with the Norwalk police and USSC security several hours before it took place. "We (Mead, the police and USSC security) met outside the U.S. Surgical building. They wanted me there because they wanted



to walk through as to how it was all going to come down, where they would be, and how they wanted it," he said. For his role in the set-up, Mead disgustingly declares, "I haven't committed any crimes and some people say I should be given a medal for what I did."<sup>6</sup>

### "Controlling Crime"

**Seymour Day "Bud" Vestermark, Jr.** is another operative of Perceptions. He has been seen at animal rights demonstrations and conferences in Connecticut and Washington, D.C., where he has posed as a pro-animal activist.<sup>7</sup> In 1978 he wrote a book entitled, "Controlling Crime in the School: A complete security handbook for administrators." A qualifying reference in the book says that Vestermark has worked with an "executive office for the President of the United States as a staff member on a task force charged with developing policies to deal with the aftermath of political assassinations and collective violence."<sup>8</sup> He is the Senior Contributing Editor to the *Animal Rights Reporter*, a publication reporting on the activities of the animal rights/liberation movement for the benefit of animal exploitation industries, which charges \$195/year for subscriptions.

The *Reporter* is published by **Perceptions Press**, which has a mailing address in Washington, D.C. Although both Perceptions groups have denied any connection with each other, the links are confirmed; the ARR is mailed from Perceptions International's address, and both groups are headed by **Jan Reber**. Vestermark is also listed as a "principle executive" of Perceptions.<sup>9</sup>

**Mary Lou Sapone**, the third Perceptions spy, is believed to be feeding information to not only the *A.R. Reporter*, but to the FBI as well. Before we talk about her, a few more ominous words about Perceptions and its owner, Jan Reber.

**Jan Reber** has been involved in the security industry since 1972, when he headed a company called **Security Perception Unlimited**. His staff at that time included a former assistant director of the FBI and a former military intelligence officer. Reber himself hinted at connections with the CIA. SPU sold information on "international terrorist problems" to the Fortune 500 through their publication, *Big Business Day*.<sup>10</sup>



**Mary Lou Sapone**, a full-time employee of Perceptions, collects a salary of \$50,000 a year plus expenses.<sup>11</sup> On Nov. 22, 1988, eleven days after Fran Trutt was arrested, she gave a statement to the FBI on the case, as well as supplying tapes of her conversations with Trutt.<sup>12</sup> Sapone had gained the trust of such mainstream animal rights groups as Animals' Agenda, Friends of Animals and Animal Rights Alliance, of which

she had become president for a short time. Trutt had trusted Sapone with her dogs and confidential files after her arrest. Earlier, Trutt says that Sapone encouraged her to work with Marc Mead. "He knows what he is doing," Sapone had said.<sup>13</sup>

### Anarchist Infiltration

As part of her infiltration of the animal liberation movement, Sapone came onto the mailing list of the **Animal Liberation Front Support Group** in Canada. Through this group she learned of, and attended, the **Anarchist Survival Gathering** held in Toronto in July, 1988. Sapone has written to the ALFSG since the gathering, expressing her delight at meeting Toronto supporters, and her presence has been confirmed by those who sat beside and spoke with her. The *Animal Rights Reporter* (v.I, #1) states, in an article about the ALFSG in the USA: "In July, persons believed to be associated with ALFSG in California attended the Anarchist Survival Gathering in Toronto. There they were in contact with militant Canadian animal rights activists."

Sapone is described by her ex-husband as an excellent liar, who may have begun her spying career in the 1970s. "During the 70's it seemed that she belonged to every group in the world," he said.<sup>14</sup> It is obvious that she does her job well. In Toronto alone, she is on the mailing lists of ALFSG, **Animal Defense Network**, **Queer Anarchist Network**, **Wimmins Prisoner Survival Network** and *Reality Now*, as well as being a (former) subscriber to the *Ecomedia Bulletin*. From her attendance at the Anarchist Survival Gathering she became affiliated with **MAYDAY!**, the networking publication for North





known as an activist, you are a candidate for a phone tap.

2) You cannot assume that your meek and mild friend, whose phone you are using, is not involved in something or does not have an open association with someone who is "heavy".

3) Pay phones are also tapped. (This fact is reported in the Ont. Gazette by the Attorney General in his yearly report.) You can not assume that the pay phone you have chosen is not the one the police are tapping in order to get "Teddy the Torch" who uses it too and is not as cautious as you. The police solve many crimes by "accident" when they stumble across evidence while investigating something entirely different."

### Informers

"You can assume that you know a few...you can not assume that because someone is encouraging criminal activity they are not a cop or that if they are a cop this will somehow help you when you are on trial." (Reality Now p39).

Use your intuition! Don't ignore those nagging doubts. Either confront it or drop it!

There are lots of zines with extensive articles on security, and everyone is encouraged to locate some and read them. **REMEMBER: LOOSE TALK COSTS LIVES...**in taxis, on the phone, in clubs and bars, at football matches, at home with friends, ANYWHERE! **Whatever you say, say nothing!**

As stated at the beginning of the article, there is much more information about this case. Some of it could not make it into this article, other news is only now being made public, while still

more we can only wait to learn of. Perceptions and USSC president Leon Hirsch have both threatened to reveal more, and a federal grand jury investigation in New York is expected to call many witnesses in the near future. Ecomedia, with the help of the newly-formed Toronto group watching this case, will keep you up-to-date as more information unfolds.

We wish to stress as well that this may not just be an isolated case of one company, USSC, attempting to destroy their opposition. The connections to federal and international police forces are clear at this point, and their involvement inside progressive movements we will continually be researching and exposing.

### Current Situation

The status of the legal proceedings at this point in time (2-15-89) are as follows: The New York state charge of possessing explosives is at the "First Conference" stage, where the attorneys and the judge will meet to discuss the case. This happens on Feb. 17, and Trutt's New York attorney Myron Beldoch expects several delays before any proceedings take place. Trutt has been arraigned in absentia, and a plea of not guilty was entered.

The stage of proceedings for her Connecticut charges are similar as there is a "status conference" between the legal parties set for Feb. 21. Those charges of attempted murder and possession of explosives, for which she has also pled not guilty to, have reached the pre-trial stage but both defence lawyer John Williams and the prosecution attorney have requested delays to examine the continually-emerging "evidence".

***Fran Trutt has been in jail for over three months now.*** A request for a reduction in the \$500,000 bond was requested but denied soon after her arrest. As new evidence of entrapment emerges (the expected approach of the defence lawyers), further requests for bail bond reduction are expected to be made.

For those interested in helping out with the legal fees, a defence fund has been set up by Bill Manetti, from the Animal Rights Front, and Carolyn Comerford, an attorney. Donations can be sent to:

**Fran Trutt Legal Defence Fund**  
**266-B Main St., Suite 120**  
**Munroe, CT, 06468 USA**

Letters of support to Fran can also be sent here and will be forwarded to her.

As a final note, we would also like to emphasize and remind you of the media blackout in the Canadian media and the limited amount of coverage this case has received in the U.S. (practically nothing outside of New York and Connecticut). The implications of major corporate movement infiltration which allies itself with the FBI and CIA has serious implications for all of us.

### Sources

- 1-Stamford Advocate 1-25-89
- 2-Norwalk Hour 1-24-89
- 3-Westport News 1-18-89
- 4-Westport News 1-11-89
- 5-ibid
- 6-ibid
- 7-Fairfield County Advocate 1-16-89
- 8-New York Newsday 2-5-89
- 9-Norwalk Hour 2-1-89
- 10-ibid, also Westport News 1-13-89
- 11-Westport News 2-1-89
- 12-Westport News 1-25-89 & 1-27-89
- 13-Westport News 1-25-89
- 14-Westport News 2-1-89
- 15-Stamford Advocate 2-3-89

Other sources include the *New York Times*, *New York Post*, *Washington Post*, and personal contacts.



# 43 Political Prisoners on Hungerstrike

On February 1, 1989, 28 political prisoners of the Red Army Faction (RAF) and other revolutionary prisoners started a hungerstrike in West Berlin.

RAF are a Marxist-Leninist urban guerrilla organization dedicated to revolutionary change and fighting imperialism. They have been fighting for 19 years, and their actions have included attacking U.S. military bases, police headquarters and assassinations of imperialist corporate businessmen. In a statement released from the hungerstrikers they demand:

1. Integration of all prisoners from the Red Army Faction with the other resistance prisoners into one or two big groups. (All political prisoners are currently held in isolation/solitary confinement)

2. The release of four RAF prisoners, Gunter Sonnenberg, Claudia Wannersdorf, Bernd Rossner and

Angelika Goder, who each have a different serious disease from being in isolation. (They could die if they don't get released.)

3. Free medical care without control by the guards/cops.

4. To be able to receive any political information without censorship.

In their statement they announced a long fight and battle.

Being held in isolation or "white torture" has become the trademark of the West German government's method of trying to break down prisoners. These horrible conditions include non-association with any other prisoners (political or general); one hour of solitary yard exercise daily; twenty-three (23) daily hours in a windowless security cell with empty neighbouring cells; screened lawyer visits; censorship of mail; two hours of visitor time each month; restricted number of books; the wearing of

prison uniforms, among other things.

There have been nine previous hungerstrikes since the early 70's and two RAF prisoners have been killed. They were Holger Meins on 9/11/74 and Sigurd Debus on 16/4/81. Both prisoners were force fed during his hungerstrike and died because not enough calories were present in the force fed food to keep them alive.

Also several other RAF prisoners were killed by West Germany's fascist murdergang in 1976 & 77.

Most of the hungerstrikes in the past were accompanied constantly with militant resistance actions. The last hungerstrike was ended when a commando of the RAF executed the MTU-manager Zimmurmann (MTU is a big war corporation).

As of February 8, 1989, 43 political prisoners have joined the hungerstrike.

*Berlin correspondent*

## RaRa suspect released

René, the only suspect convicted of some of the RaRa anti-apartheid actions in the Netherlands, has been released after a successful appeal on January 3. The Court of Appeal found that the house search of René's residence had been conducted in an improper manner. It was this search that turned up most of the "evidence" that was used to obtain his conviction. According to regulations, a 'commissionar-judge', who represents the Justice Department, has to be present at all times during a house search by the police. When the police searched René's house the 'commissionar-judge' had only been

present during the first 15 minutes of the search, and the residents had not been given the opportunity to contact a lawyer. This was enough reason for the Court of Appeal to order René's immediate release. He is still to stand trial for attempted arson, but even if convicted on this charge, his sentence will most likely be shorter than the 9 months René has already been imprisoned.

We can get a good laugh that the police managed to bungle the house search that was to be the culmination of nearly two years of intensive investigation which had resulted in the arrest of five suspects.

### Anarchist on trial in Toronto

Dave Watts, an anarchist who attended the Day of Action during the Anarchist Gathering, hosted in Toronto last year, and was thereby arrested for allegedly damaging vehicles, settled out of court recently to the sum of \$1,529.87. He has the money out on loan but needs to pay it back quickly. This is a call for contributions. \$161 has already been raised so far, but Dave still needs almost \$1,350. If you can help out at all, please do! **Checks or money orders should be made out to Dave Watts and mailed to him c/o Joe Chang, 175 Baldwin Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1L9**



# Planning your Anarchist Calendar

## Town Hall Meeting and other exciting events

The third Anarchist Town Hall meeting is scheduled for March 7, 7:30pm at the 519 Church St. Community Centre. The meeting is an opportunity for Toronto area anarchist groups and individuals to come together to discuss ongoing action, future possible action and deal with matters of general importance to the anarchist community. It's almost an experiment in self-government for our community and will shape itself as we decide what we need as a community. If you're an active anarchist or just interested in what all the fuss is about, come on out. Also:

**Friday, February 24, 8 p.m.** Videos at the Autonomy Centre, 243 Augusta Street (rear entrance) include Jainism, Sartre on Tintoretto, classic animation.

**Saturday, February 25, 8 p.m.** Film program at the Autonomy Centre, 243 Augusta Street (rear entrance) include Canada's Sweetheart (how the federal government helped Hal Banks), Yellow Submarine (The Beatles), Popeye Meets Sinbad.

**Monday, February 27, 10:30 a.m.** Neither East Nor West presenting petitions to protest Poland's refusal of passports to dissidents at Polish consulate, 2603

Lakeshore Blvd.

8 p.m. Videos at the Autonomy Centre, 243 Augusta St.

**Saturday, March 4, 8 p.m.** Films at the Autonomy Centre, 243 Augusta St.

**Sunday, March 5, noon.** *Anarchist women's tea* at Cathedral B, 774 Crawford St.

4 p.m. Neither East Nor West demonstration (see Mon. 2/27) at Nathan Phillips Square, everyone invited, for more info phone 359-0735

**Tuesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.** Anarchist Town Hall Meeting, 519 Church St.

If you have an event of interest to the Toronto anarchist community you'd like included in this calendar, call the Anarchist Hotline 536-2514.

## MEDIA WATCH



### Racism & Sexism in a patriarchal society...again.

Eight out of ten native Canadian girls under the age of 8 are survivors of sexual abuse, as are 50% of native boys of the same age, according to a Toronto Star report 1-28-89 pA1. We don't contest these statistics or finds—rape and incest are problems far more prevalent than anyone cares to admit—but the context into which the article places these findings is racist.

The article implies that all the abusers of these children and wimmin are native men; this implication, taken further, leads to the assumption that most natives are rapists. In fact, a great deal of sexual abuse of native wimmin is perpetrated by white men in a vicious expression of racism. White violence towards native people, including lynchings, is quite prevalent in this country.

*"Rape is a way of exercising power, used by people who grew up believing that relationships are interactions of a powerful and a helpless person; when you get old enough, you turn the tables on someone else."*

This analysis applies to all rape and rapists. It also typifies the historic relations white people have forced on native people. And this dynamic is the foundation of this country.

## LAUNDRO-ART

Under the heading "it all comes out in the wash," the Laundromat Project is calling for participants and support for a co-operative public access project directed to artists looking to show their work outside the established venues. Pull your head out of the dryer and look into your laundromat as an alternative showing space. Artists who would like information should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

**It All Comes Out in the Wash, 278 Borden St. Toronto M5S 2N6**, or call Michael 651-9928, Nanet 533-5744 or Calla or Michelle 533-9048.

## New Statistics!

Ecomedia is an international autonomous wire service which reports on action and news from an activist/anarchist perspective. It is an alternative to the regular media which ignore relevant actions and ideas.

Ecomedia Toronto publishes this bulletin every two weeks, which is distributed free locally from places around the city. Subscriptions are now \$15 for a year (26 issues) and you'll receive a package every 2 issues (to save mailing costs). Donations are always welcome. If you'd like to get involved in the news network, there are opportunities for writing, distribution, radio, research, etc, so get in touch at the address on the front.

We also do two radio shows, both of which have changed times now. Ecomedia can be heard on CKLN 88.1 FM every Wednesday between 7 and 8pm on the "Word of Mouth" show, and "Desire Armed", our other show, can be heard weekly on CIUT 89.5 FM on Fridays from 11:05 to 11:30am.